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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,908	04/08/2005	Stefan Ossenkopp	3261	9897

7590
Striker Striker & Stenby
103 East Neck Road
Huntington, NY 11743

01/11/2008

EXAMINER

CAZAN, LIVIUS RADU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3729

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/11/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/530,908	Applicant(s) OSSENKOPP ET AL.	
	Examiner Livius R. Cazan	Art Unit 3729	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 9/12/2007 has been fully considered and made of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. **Claims 1-11 and 13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In particular, the phrase "the connecting ring" (step d of claim 1) lacks proper antecedent basis. Further, the phrase "wherein manufacture of the ... of the wire elements" (step c of claim 1) is vague, since it is unclear exactly what method steps constitute manufacturing the integrated star point. Also, in the art, the term "star point" refers to a multiphase electrical connection in which one end of each coil is connected to a neutral point. For example, in a three-phase Y-connected winding, the center of the "Y" is the neutral/star point. As currently claimed, it would appear the star point is manufactured in step c), but the claims then recite "producing an interconnection of the integrated star point" in step d). It is not until the stamped wire elements 11 are mechanically and electrically connected to the ring 40 that the actual star point is produced. It is therefore unclear what is meant by the language of step c), since no star point is made in that step.

Also, as currently claimed, it is not clear whether or not the "finished winding head" recited in step d of claim 1 is related in any way to the remaining structural elements, since the claim does not recite forming the winding head, so the recited winding head could be a previously-manufactured winding head, for example. The term "finished" is vague, since it is unclear at which point during the manufacturing process this winding head was finished. Further, it is unclear what is meant by "is disposed radially inward" (step d of claim 1). Radially inward relative to what? As currently claimed, the connecting ring must be disposed on an inside of *some* finished winding head, and the entire connecting ring must be disposed radially inward of some unmentioned structure.

Also, in claims 11 and 13, the phrase "the star point wires" lacks proper antecedent basis. If these wires are the same as the wire elements for the integrated star point, the claim language should be changed accordingly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5. **Claims 1-10, 11, and 13** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shafer (US5508571 to Shafer, Jr.) in view of Maesoba (US6339871 to Maesoba et al.) and Oohashi (US6707211 to Oohashi et al.) as well as over Maesoba in view of Shafer and Oohashi.

The rejection is maintained. See the Office Action mailed on 4/19/2007. Regarding the newly added limitations, as best understood, it should be noted that as

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rejected the integrated stator point is manufactured, at least to the extent the wire segments would be deformed, together with the other types of wire segments. Moreover, at least a portion of the ring is disposed on an inside of a finished winding head, as discussed in the previous Office Action.

Regarding claims 11 and 13, as best understood, it is noted that as applied to claim 1, the references disclose wires with bent ends facing one another in a star shape and being connected with the connecting ring.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 9/12/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue the prior art does not suggest the desirability of the claimed invention, and, as such, cannot establish a prima facie case of obviousness.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). It is readily apparent that connecting the conductors for the star point to a conductive ring, as taught by Shafer, greatly simplifies the formation of the star point. As such, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify the process of Maesoba, for example, to easily form a star point, compared to the prior art (see col. 1,

Ins. 5-45 of Shafer), by connecting the conductors to a conductive ring. It is readily apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that for the same reasons it is desirable to apply this technique to the stator of Shafer, it would be desirable to apply the same technique to other stators, for the benefits disclosed by Shafer.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

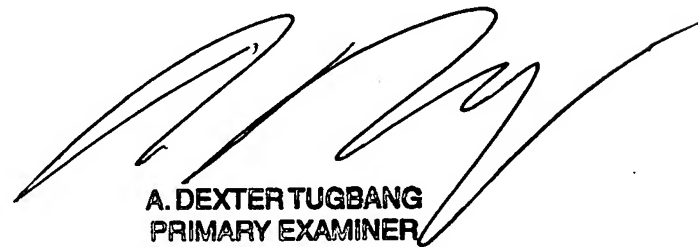
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Livius R. Cazan whose telephone number is (571) 272-8032. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (571)272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/LRC/ 01/07/2008



A. DEXTER TUGBANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER